

# KERALA IT NEWS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF IT PARKS KERALA

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## WITH TRANS ASIA, INFOPARK GETS YET ANOTHER EMPLOYMENT CENTRE

The inauguration of two major employment centres on the campus in November marked yet another milestone in the development of Infopark. One is LuLu Cyber Park, Tower 2 while the other is the Trans Asia Cyber Park, a private co-developer space at Phase 2 in Infopark.

The 6 lakh sq ft, Gold LEED-certified building with two towers is expected to provide employment to more than 4500 people. The state-of-the-art building is a fully-furnished commercial and office space that will be provided for rent and lease for IT and ITES companies.

The new building was inaugurated by Rev. Baker Ninan Fenn, Bishop of Cochin Diocese – Church of South India in the presence of M Sivasankar IAS, Secretary, IT and Electronics, Government of Kerala; K Mohammed Y Safirulla IAS, Ernakulam District Collector; Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, IT Parks, Kerala; Johnson K Mathew, CMD, Trans Asia; PT Thomas, MLA, Thrikkakara; VP Sajeendran, MLA, Kunnathnaadu and other dignitaries.

“While we were drafting the master plan for Infopark phase 2 in 2013 with higher officials, we decided to create something different from Phase 1, a township model. We were discussing this with multiple co-developers who wanted to come and invest here,” said Hrishikesh Nair.



“Only when co-developers like Trans Asia and LuLu make their entry in the Park, can we match the standards of IT cities like Bengaluru.

With this building, Trans Asia has also made significant contributions to the Chief Minister’s vision of creating an additional one crore sq ft of IT

office space by 2022,” he added.

It has six floors of spacious car parking with elevators on each floor and a dining area of 17,500 sq ft specially designed for corporates.

The space is laid out in such a way that it can be used for private conversations and business discussions. There are individual work stations with office spaces ranging from 2100 sq ft to 17,000 sq ft.

There are utilities like hypermarket, leisure areas, gymnasium, bank and ATMs in the building.

The Trans Asia Group has their sister concern Trans Asian Shipping Services on the Seaport – Airport Road in Kakkanad.

# DELEGATION FROM UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS VISITS TECHNOPARK; SIGNS MoU WITH IIITM-K, KSUM, ICTAK

A delegation led by Tim Killeen, President, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) visited Technopark and signed three MoUs with Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Kerala (IIITM-K), Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) and Information and Communication Technology Academy of Kerala (ICTAK) for academic collaboration, skilling and joint research respectively.

The partnership will help ICTAK create customised courses on Data Sciences, Artificial Intelligence and Augmented and Virtual Reality. An MoU was signed between UIUC and IIITM-K on academic and research collaboration in areas like medical imaging, cybersecurity, AI and the like for academic exchanges and joint research projects. The University of Illinois System consists of three universities located in Champaign-Urbana, Chicago and Springfield. It is a world-renowned ecosystem for innovation, research, and interdisciplinary learning.



In 2018, the University established the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI), a new joint education, research and innovation institute to catalyse economic growth.

The Chicago-based institute will bring hundreds of the best minds from academia and industry together in an interdisciplinary hub of unprecedented critical mass, to accelerate innovation and create life-changing products, taking them to market faster than ever. The University will support the Centre for Bio-medical Research, Innovation and Commercialization (BRIC) being set up jointly by KSUM and

the Cochin Cancer Research Centre as the country's first focused incubator for developing digital products for cancer diagnosis, prevention and care. The MoU will also enable Kerala startups to associate with the University's Discovery Partners Institute. The team met the CEOs of companies at the Park to explore partnerships in advanced technologies like AI, blockchain and cybersecurity.

The delegation also met Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in the presence of Chief Secretary Tom Jose IAS and M Sivasankar IAS, Secretary, IT & Electronics.

## KSUM OFFERS SPACE FOR STARTUPS

In a boost for scale up startups, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) has invited promising technology startups to apply for incubation spaces in its facilities in Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi. Under the scheme, startups registered with KSUM can look for space at STADE (Space Technology Application Development Ecosystem) in KINFRA Film and Video Park, Thiruvananthapuram; ACE Incubator, Technopark and Technology Innovation Zone, Kochi.

KSUM's incubation programme is designed to maximize the success rate of potential ventures into investible startups. KSUM has earmarked an area of approximately 38,500 sq ft in ACE Incubator, 8,169 sq ft in STADE and 6,000 sq ft in Kochi under the scheme. Online applications will be considered for selection based on the



overall performance of the applicants.

Selected startups will get facilities including a fully-furnished co-working space with basic amenities, Cloud Credits, Fablabs and Futurelabs, development tools and startup box kits. They will also be offered a structured programme including pitching workshops, management development programmes with IIMs, connect to the government and incubators and participation in open house and panel discussions.

## JAPANESE AMBASSADOR VISITS TECHNOPARK



Kenji Hiramatsu, Japan's Ambassador to India, visited Technopark for an interaction with CEOs of startup companies. They were in the State for the inauguration of Nissan Motors' first global Digital Innovation Hub in Technopark Phase 3. They looked at possibilities of Japanese startups collaborating with the State Government and also studied how startups from Kerala could associate with Japanese clients.



## QKOPY APP NOW AVAILABLE TO TECHNOPARK EMPLOYEES

An app that silenced social media rumour mongers during the outbreak of Nipah, Qkopy was developed by a team of engineers based in Cyberpark, in association with the Department of Health.

The app soon widened its range of services and attracted many users in Cyberpark. Qkopy is now available for the employees of Technopark too. Users can download this free application and sign in using their mobile number.

“They will receive instant notifications from those who have already

signed in with the app. For instance, the app is now used by the Trivandrum City Police and those who have downloaded the app will get notifications from the police department. Unlike other social media platforms, Qkopy ensures privacy to its users,” said Rajiv Surendran, Co-founder/COO, Qkopy Online Services. For instant updates



from Technopark, save the number 79 94 458 458 on the phone and download Qkopy App from playstore/app store.

## INFOPARK INTRODUCES SIX-SEATER SHUTTLE SERVICE



In a bid to mitigate the commutation woes of techies at Infopark, the Park administration has introduced a six-seater shuttle vehicle service that will benefit IT professionals commuting between the main gate at Phase 1 and Jyothirmaya building.

## KUREEPUZHA SREEKUMAR DISTRIBUTES SRISHTI AWARDS



The award distribution of the fifth edition of Prathidhwani festival of literature and arts – Srishti 2018, was done by noted poet Kureepuzha Sreekumar on December 10 at Technopark Travancore Hall. The first edition of Prathidhwani’s magazine was also released by Kureepuzha Sreekumar. As many as 297 employees had participated in Srishti 2018.

Various categories considered for the competition were Malayalam, English and Tamil Short Story; Malayalam, English and Tamil Poetry; Malayalam and English Articles; Pencil Drawing, Painting, and Cartoon.

A collection of poems called *Gauli*, by Nandu S Chittar was presented by Kureepuzha Sreekumar to Bindu VS, a jury member of Srishti 2018.

## EXPEED OPENS FIRST OFFICE IN KERALA



Expeed Software has opened their office at Carnival Infopark, Phase 4 in Kochi. The 2280 sq ft office was inaugurated by Rao Chejarla, Founder and CEO, Expeed Software. The US-based company has an office in Hyderabad.

## TECHNOPARK RESUMES TECH EXPRESS SERVICE



The travel and tourism co-operative society in Technopark has resumed the daily bus service from the Park. The service had to be stopped earlier after it was found to be financially unviable. “This year, the Park provided financial support. We have eight trips a day, four each in the morning and evening,” said Shamon Halith, President, Technopark Travel and Tourism. The route includes Kariavattom, Kazhakootam and Kazhakootam railway station. A special service has been arranged for Kochuveli railway station on Fridays. Those availing the bus service will be given a monthly card.

“In January, we will introduce two more mini buses which will cover a wider route including Vattiyookavu, Thirumala, Peyad, Thycaud, Peroorkada, Sasthamangalam, Eanchakkal, Pettah and Akkulam,” he added.